

Message Text

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64

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 HEW-08

SWF-02 OIC-04 DRC-01 /212 W
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R 241730Z JUL 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7338

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS GENEVA 4760

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, EGEN, UN

SUBJECT: 57TH ECOSOC: COORDINATING COMMITTEE ITEM 23: NATURAL
DISASTERS

REF: A) STATE 156199, B) STATE 158975

1. ITEM 23 COMPLETED. DEBATE THIS ITEM LARGELY CON-
FINED TO EXPRESSIONS PLEASURE WORK OF UNDRO AND COMMENTS
RE UNDRO STAFFING AND TRAVEL NEEDS, THE LATTER FOR
LARGER DISASTERS. SUBJECT INTRODUCED BY BERKOL, UNDRO
COORDINATOR.

2. DUTCH RESOLUTION INTRODUCED JULY 23, AT WHICH TIME
U.S. INTRODUCED AMENDMENT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 PER
REF (B), WHICH IN PRIOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AGREED
TO BY CO-SPONSORS. SOVIETS ALSO INTRODUCED AMENDMENT
SAME OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH, WHILE FRG, FRANCE, TURKEY
AND BRAZIL INTRODUCED ISOLATED LANGUAGE AMENDMENTS.
ITEM THEN DROPPED TO ALLOW FOR INFORMAL DUTCH-US-USSR
CONSULTATIONS; AND RESUMED FOLLOWING DAY, JULY 24, AT
WHICH TIME AGREED-UPON TEXT OF RESOLUTION PASSED BY
CONSENSUS, WITH U.S. BECOMING CO-SPONSOR.

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3. WHILE REVISED TEXT PARA 4 CHANGED SOMEWHAT IN CON-
SULTATIONS FROM TEXT PROVIDED US REF (B), WE AGREED
CO-SPONSOR ON GROUNDS: (A) REVISION DID NOT ALTER MAIN
THRUST ORIGINAL U.S. AMENDMENT; (B) FIRM INSTRUCTIONS
TO SUPPORT STRENGTHENING OF UNDRO; AND (C) DESIRE TO
HELP DUTCH, WHOSE HELP WE MAY NEED ELSEWHERE IN OTHER
MORE IMPORTANT NEGOTIATIONS.

4. FINAL TEXT AS FOLLOWS (CO-SPONSORS: ETHIOPIA,
INDONESIA, NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN, YUGOSLAVIA, U.S.):
"THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

"RECALLING GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2816 (XXVI)
OF 14 DECEMBER 1971,

TAKING NOTE WITH APPRECIATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF
NATURAL DISASTER AND OTHER DISASTER SITUATIONS (DOC.
E/5531),

"RECOGNIZING THE VALUABLE SERVICES RENDERED BY
VARIOUS UNITS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS
SYSTEM, AND IN PARTICULAR THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED
NATIONS DISASTER RELIEF CO-ORDINATOR IN CASES OF
NATURAL DISASTERS AND OTHER DISASTER SITUATIONS,

"EXPRESSING ITS APPRECIATION FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF
REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED IN THIS FIELD,

"CONVINCED THAT DISASTER PREVENTION AND PRE-DISASTER
PLANNING HAVE TO FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE INTER-
NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,

"CONVINCED FURTHER THAT THE STAFF LIMITATIONS OF
THE SAID OFFICE HAVE INHIBITED ITS ABILITY TO PREPARE
DETAILS OF THE KIND OF RELIEF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES
WHICH DONORS ARE WILLING TO FURNISH, AND FURTHER
INHIBITED ITS ABILITY TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PRE-DISASTER
PLANNING ADVICE,
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"1. EXPRESSES THE BELIEF THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR
A MORE SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO AND STRENGTHENING OF
OPERATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN ANTICIPATION
OF, DURING AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER NATURAL DISASTERS
AND OTHER DISASTER SITUATIONS;

2. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO INVESTIGATE

THE FEASIBILITY OF MEASURES BEING TAKEN TO STRENGTHEN THE UNITED NATIONS MACHINERY IN THIS RESPECT, ESPECIALLY THE DISASTER PREVENTION, PRE-DISASTER PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATING ROLES OF THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS DISASTER RELIEF CO-ORDINATOR, IN ORDER THAT THIS MACHINERY MAY BE MADE MORE EFFICIENT TO DEAL WITH NATURAL DISASTERS AND OTHER DISASTER SITUATIONS,

"3. FURTHER REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SUBMIT HIS FINDINGS TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS FIFTY-NINTH SESSION;

"4. RECOMMENDS THAT AT ITS 29TH SESSION THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE DISCUSSIONS ON THIS ITEM AT THE 57TH SESSION OF ECOSOC, RECONSIDER THE PROPOSALS OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ADDITIONAL STAFF RESOURCES AS INITIALLY REQUESTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL IN HIS BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR UNDRO FOR 1974"⁷⁵, IN LIGHT OF THE BIENNIAL NATURE OF THE BUDGET. ABRAMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, RESOLUTIONS, NATURAL DISASTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GENEVA04760
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740201-0070
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740722/aaaaasxx.tel
Line Count: 134
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 156199, B) STATE 158975
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 OCT 2002 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <29-Oct-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 57TH ECOSOC: COORDINATING COMMITTEE ITEM 23: NATURAL DISASTERS
TAGS: EGEN, NL, ECOSOC, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005